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and properly selected food. In connection with diet, it is well to remember that milk is one of the best all-around foods obtainable for adults as well as children. In a disease like influenza health authorities everywhere recognize the very close relation between its spread and overcrowding. While it is not always possible, especially in times like the present, to avoid overcrowding, people should consider the health danger and make every effort to reduce home overcrowding to a minimum. The value of fresh air through open windows can not be overemphasized.

So far as avoidance of direct infection through inhalation is concerned, it is important to beware of the person who coughs or sneezes without covering his mouth and nose. It also follows that one should keep out of crowds and stuffy places as much as possible; keep homes, offices, and workshops well aired; spend some time out of doors each day; walk to work if at all practicable; in short, make every effort to breathe as much pure air as possible.

The indirect transmission of influenza, while more difficult to avoid, can yet be guarded against by a little thought. Less shaking of hands, shunning unclean soda fountains and restaurants, avoiding the use of common drinking cups and common towels, insistence on the observance of sanitary practices in food-handling establishments, and on the enforcement, by the authorities, of sanitary regulations governing such places—these are all measures by which every citizen can safeguard himself against infection. Their more general practice would do much to prevent the spread of disease generally. To a large extent the prevention of influenza can be summed up in the single word "Cleanliness."

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## ORDINANCE REQUIRING PRIVIES HELD VOID.

**FLORIDA SUPREME COURT DECLARES PENSACOLA ORDINANCE VOID BECAUSE IT PERMITS OF ARBITRARY DISCRIMINATION BY CITY AUTHORITIES.**

The Supreme Court of Florida has decided<sup>1</sup> that an ordinance of Pensacola, requiring "every house and building \* \* \* however used or occupied" to have a sanitary privy and requiring compliance with its provisions, after receipt of a notice, "within 15 days \* \* \* or within such further time as the commissioner of health may allow," is inoperative and void, on the ground that it "permits an arbitrary discrimination by the city authorities." Portions of the opinion follow:

Section 1 is attacked because it requires "every house or building, \* \* \* however used or occupied," to have a specially connected or constructed privy. This would require churches, garages, barns, warehouses, stables, stores, or any other

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<sup>1</sup> Ellis, City Marshal, v. Thiesen, 82 South. 607.

“building” to be “provided with a sanitary privy \* \* \* connected with a sewer,” if there be one adjacent to the premises.

To avoid the unreasonableness of this requirement, counsel for the city urges the petition does not “contain allegations of fact sufficient to show that it was not the intention only to require houses and buildings that were used or occupied for human habitation to be provided with privies.”

This strengthens the attack on the ordinance on the ground that under it the city could exercise an arbitrary discrimination between persons otherwise in similar circumstances. If the ordinance does not mean what it says, and the words “every house and building” mean only such houses and buildings as the commissioner of health, through policemen, sanitary inspectors, or other agents of the city, or the city commissioners, may intend to apply it to, and if after deciding which class of buildings these officials may decide to apply it to, the commissioner of health may enforce it within 15 days as to some, and indefinitely extend it as to others, this would be a substitution of arbitrary discrimination for the reign of law.

\* \* \* \* \*

The ordinance of the city of Pensacola permits an arbitrary discrimination by the city authorities, both as to the class of “buildings” in which privies must be installed, and as to the time when the penalty provided by the ordinance shall be imposed, and is inoperative and void. \* \* \*